



MAY 27 2003

**REQUEST
FOR
CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE)**

Subsection (b) of 35 U.S.C. § 132, effective on May 29, 2000,

Provides for continued examination of a utility or plant

Application filed on or after June 8, 1995.

See The American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA)

Application Number: 09/487,401
Filing Date: January 19, 2000
First Named Inventor: Shedden
Group Art Unit: 2172
Examiner Name: Jean Bolte Fleurantin
Attorney Docket Number: ST9-99-033

RCE/21
12/21/03
1/3/03

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 of the above-identified application.

Note: 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 is effective on May 29, 2000. If the above-identified application was filed prior to May 29, 2000, applicant may wish to consider filing a continued prosecution application (CPA) under 37 C.F.R. § 153 (d) (PTO/SB/29) instead of RCE to be eligible for the patent term adjustment provisions of the AIPA. See Changes to Application Examination and Provisional Application Practice, Final Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 50092 (August 16, 2000); Interim Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 14865 (March 20, 2000), 1233 Off. Gaz. Pat. Office 47 (Apr. 11, 2000), which established RCE practice.

1. Submission required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114

a. _____ Previously submitted

i. _____ Consider the amendment(s)/reply under 37 C.F.R. 1.116 previously filed on _____ (any unentered amendment(s) referred to above will be entered).

ii. _____ Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed filed on _____

iii. _____ Other _____

b. **XXX** Enclosed

i. **XXXX** Amendment/Reply

ii. _____ Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s)

iii. _____ Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)

iv. _____ Other _____

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Technology Center 2100

2. Miscellaneous

a. _____ Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 C.F.R. § 1.103(c) for a period of _____ months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(i) required)

b. _____ Other _____

3. Fees The RCE fee Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e) is required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 when the RCE is filed.

a. **XXX** The Director is hereby authorized to credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. **01-0467**.

i. **XXX** RCE fee required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e)

ii. **XXX** Extension of Time fee (37 C.F.R. §§ 1.136 and 1.17) for 1 month

iii. _____ Other _____

b. _____ Check in the amount of \$ _____ enclosed

c. _____ Payment by credit card (Form PTO-2038 enclosed)

4. _____ The attorney has verified that the applicant is entitled to a small entity status.

May 27, 2003

Date of Signature

Paul D. Greeley

Attorney for Applicant

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CERTIFICATE OF EXPRESS MAILING

I hereby certify that this paper or fee is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" Certificate No. **EV330349889US** service under 37 CFR § 1.10 and is addressed to: Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Allison Berkman

(Typed name of person mailing paper)

(Signature of person mailing paper)

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